



GUNSLINGER GOUGE



OCTOBER 2006

"Leave the Artillerymen alone, they are an obstinate lot. . ." Napoleon Bonaparte, Marshal of France

Marines, Sailors, Family and Friends of 2nd Battalion,

This last month the battalion concluded the transition into a Provisional Security Battalion. Headquarters Battery continued to refine the Battalion's "Battle Rhythm" as well as, increase their proficiency in crew-served weapons employment. Echo Battery began their first month of operations in Iraq and have already demonstrated their expertise and competence. Fox Battery has returned to Okinawa and is beginning to conduct provisional training, in anticipation for their return to Camp Lejeune in December. Golf Battery continues to improved their convoy proficiency conducting their training in both urban and field settings. Battery L joined the 2/10 Family this past month, and began their provisional training. Battery L deployed are part of 2/10 in 2004 and we are proud to once again have the great Marines and sailors of Lima as members of 2/10. We'll be training at Ft Polk, LA in January 2007. The training there will be both live fire and force on force with blanks. This exercise will serve as the culmination of all our current training. On 18 October 2006, I was especially proud to have Corporal Smith of HQ Battery recognized as the Marine of the Quarter for 10th Marine Regiment. He was awarded a Certificate of Commendation by the Regimental Commander and a Plaque by the Pioneer Corporation.

Our battalion will celebrate two important dates in the coming months. The first is 10 November, the date the Continental Congress established the Marine Corps in 1775. Regardless of location, Marines pause to observe our birthday by sharing a cake. A sword is used to cut the cake as a reminder that we are a band of warriors, committed to carrying the sword, so that our nation may live in peace. As is our custom, the first piece of cake is presented to our guest of honor. The second piece is presented to the oldest Marine in the command, signifying the honor and respect accorded to experience and seniority. Symbolically, the eldest Marine present passes a piece of cake to the youngest Marine present, just as for 231 years our experienced Marines have nurtured and led young Marines that will fill our ranks and renew our Corps. The second date is 4 December, the Feast of St Barbara the patron saint of artillery. Though we are presently training as infantrymen, we still honor our heritage as artillerymen. On this day we will recognize members of the command and spouses who have made sustained contributions to the artillery community. St Barbara's biography can be found below. My best wishes to all our families and friends during this upcoming holiday season.

Semper Fidelis
LtCol Parker

Upcoming Bn Events

- Battalion Field Ex: 23-27 Oct
- Enlisted Marine Corps Ball: 2 Nov
- NCO Marine Corps Ball: 3 Nov
- SNCO Marine Corps Ball: 8 Nov
- Officer Marine Corps Ball: 9 Nov
- Marine Corps Birthday: 10 Nov
- SNCO St Barbara's Day: 2 Dec
- Officer St Barbara's Day: 8 Dec
- Bn Christmas Party: 15 Dec
- Ft Polk: 6-26 Jan



Cpl Smith recognized as 10th Marine Regiment
Marine of the Quarter

Battalion Family Readiness Officer

Major Tate
(910) 450-8114

Bn Family Readiness Staff NCO:

SSgt Bird
(910) 450-6464

2/10 Website

<http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/2dmardiv/210/index.htm>

The Legend of Saint Barbara



According to legend, Saint Barbara was the beautiful daughter of a wealthy heathen named Dioscorus, who lived near Nicomedia in Asia Minor. Because of her beauty and fearful that she be demanded in marriage and taken away from him, he shut her up in a tower to protect her from the outside world. Shortly before embarking on a journey, he commissioned a bathhouse to be built for her. Barbara had heard of the teachings of Christ, and while her father was gone spent much time in contemplation. From the windows of her tower she looked out upon the surrounding countryside and marveled at the growing things; the trees, the animals and the people. She decided that all these must be part of a master plan, and that the idols of wood and stone worshipped by her parents must be condemned as false. Gradually she came to accept the Christian faith. As her belief became firm, she directed that the builders redesign the bathhouse her father had planned, adding another window so that the three windows might symbolize the Holy Trinity. When her father returned, he was enraged at the changes and infuriated when Barbara acknowledged that she was a Christian. He dragged her before the prefect of the province, who decreed that she be tortured and put to death by beheading. Dioscorus himself carried out the death sentence. On his way home he was struck by lightning and his body consumed. Saint Barbara lived and died about the year 300 A.D. She was venerated as early as the seventh century. The legend of the lightning bolt which struck down her persecutor caused her to be regarded as the patron saint in time of danger from thunderstorms, fires and sudden death. When gunpowder made its appearance in the Western world, Saint Barbara was invoked for aid against accidents resulting from explosions—since some of the earlier artillery pieces often blew up instead of firing their projectile, Saint Barbara became the patroness of the artillerymen. Saint Barbara is usually represented standing by a tower with three windows, carrying the palm of a martyr in her hand. Often, too, she holds a chalice and a sacramental wafer and sometimes cannon are displayed near her. In the present calendars, the feast of Saint Barbara falls on December 4th and is traditionally recognized by a formal Dining-In or military dinner, often involving presentation of the Order of Saint Barbara. The Order of Saint Barbara is an honorary military society of the United States Field Artillery. Both U.S. Marine and Army field artillery along with their military and civilian supporters are eligible for membership. The most distinguished level is the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara and those who are selected for this honor have achieved long-term, exceptional service to the field artillery surpassing even their brethren in the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara.



HEADQUARTERS BATTERY



Friends and Families of the Marines and Sailors of Headquarters Battery,

The last few months have been extremely hectic as we continue to prepare for our upcoming deployment to Iraq. Your Marines and Sailors have performed extremely well through all these challenges and I am proud to be able to work with them everyday. Whether going on a ten mile conditioning hike, tossing hand grenades, or shooting machine guns they continue to maintain their motivation. This is due in a large part to your continued support. I would like to thank you for both your assistance to your family members and your patience with our busy schedule.

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the Battalion's NCO of the Quarter, Cpl Justin Hunter, and to the Regimental Marine of the Quarter, LCpl Cory Smith (now Cpl Smith) both from Headquarters Battery. They serve as an inspiration to the rest of the Marines in the Battery, and we are all proud of them as our representatives.

As October has begun we have also had several Marines reenlist. Their choice to continue to serve their country during a time of global conflict proves again that this country still produces the greatest young people in the world—your Sailors and Marines. As we continue to prepare for deployment you will be able to check on the latest changes to our schedule on our website, as well as finding more pictures.

Semper Fidelis,
Capt Lang

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the Headquarters Battery Marines promoted to the following ranks:

SGT HARRIS
CPL HAWKINS
CPL SATHAM
CPL TORRES
CPL SMITH
CPL SPENCER
LPCL TIMBER



Reenlistments:

Thanks to the Headquarters Battery Marines that have chosen to continue their service:
SSgt Lynch
Sgt Hackney
Sgt Kaleleiki
Cpl. Liddell
Cpl. Syx
Cpl. Davis

Births

Congratulations to our newest proud parents:

Sgt and Mrs. Hackney on the birth of their daughter on August 23rd. She was able to attend her father's reenlistment (pictured below)



AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Marines on their recent awards:
1ST SGT DEYOUNG- Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal
SSGT BYRD-Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal
GYSGT RODRIGUEZ - Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal
SGT HARRIS- Good Conduct Medal
SGT CARTAYA- Good Conduct Medal
CPL JOLLY-Good Conduct Medal
CPL LIDDEL- Good Conduct Medal
CPL PASSARELLO- Good Conduct Medal
LCPL SMITH- Good Conduct Medal

Battery Family Readiness Officer

2ndLt Johnson
(910) 450-8127

HQ, 2/10 Website

<http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/2dmardiv/210/hqindex.html>



ECHO BATTERY



Echo Battery is now fully operational here in Iraq. We had an incredibly productive turnover with the outgoing unit, whom I would like to thank for their dedication, professionalism, and patience. They imparted many valuable lessons learned to our Marines, and the Echo Marines soaked it all in.

We are continuing to improve our facilities here at our compound. One day, these facilities will once again belong to an Iraqi unit, and we want to set them up for success.

On non-mission days, we are also busy maintaining our vehicles. While they are all the newest armored vehicles available, we put a lot of miles on them. Preventative maintenance pays huge dividends here.

We are starting to receive a steady flow of care packages, and I encourage you to keep them coming. If you would like to send a "bulk" care package to the battery, simply address it to me or "Commanding Officer", and I will ensure that we distribute the items evenly. Toiletries, paperbacks, beef jerky, cigars, magazines, coffee (ground), tea, licorice, gummy candy, and hand sanitizer are all safe bets.

For those of you who want to get a quick message to your Marine, I suggest using MotoMail. It is a web-based mail service which delivers a message to your Marine or Sailor in 24-72 hours. It is quick, efficient, and free. I have included the link below.

https://www.motomail.us/login.cfm?CFID=1013866&CF_TOKEN=4d66358aa8af269a-C31469FE-9698-C8FA-1D8A85A95D564558&jsessionid=b430bd43407f56363568

Finally, I have received several emails from people who would like to send "letters of support" just letting us know that the battery is in their thoughts and prayers. I think that it is important to remind the troops that people back home are behind them and praying for their safe return. I will post any such positive message mailed or emailed directly to me in a prominent area. My email is kenneth.goedecke@cemnf-wiraq.usmc.mil.

Thanks again for your support.
Captain Goedecke, USMC



Convoy staged for movement



Cpl Parks Promotion

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations To Cpl Parks, our first promotion in Iraq.



Scout 1, 1st Platoon, E 2/10

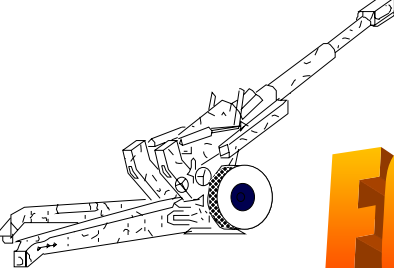
Echo Battery Address:
Rank and Name
(or "Commanding Officer" for bulkcare packages)
Echo 2/10
Unit 73350
FPO AE 09509-3350

Battery Family Readiness Officer

1stLt Goldenstein

Btry E, 2/10 Website

<http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/2dmardiv/210/eindex.html>



FOX BATTERY



Dear Fox Family and Friends,

Greetings from Okinawa! Fox Battery recently returned from our last Artillery Relocation Exercise in Camp Fuji, Japan. There we had the opportunity to train independently as a battery and later as part of the 3/12 Battalion. While all firing batteries met the standards for training, I am proud to report that our Marines consistently outperformed their peers when it came to delivering accurate and timely artillery fires. The hard work of our Scout Observers, Cannoneers, and Fire Direction Controlmen throughout all our previous live firing exercises was evident in our superior performance. However, they would not have had the opportunity to demonstrate those skills without the constant dedication and commitment of our Motor Transport, Ammunition, and Communications sections. All our Marines and our devoted Navy corpsmen came together and accomplished the mission better than any other unit out there. My congratulations go out to all of them and to all of you for your support.

After the hard work was done, our Marines had the opportunity to enjoy several activities and some well-earned free time in the spectacular city of Tokyo. Some of us joined other 3/12 personnel in a community relations project to a local orphanage where we took some time out to play with the children in a nearby park. The summit of Mt Fuji taunted us while in the field, but we were unable to climb to it due to the unpredictability of the weather and the logistical constraints involved with climbing the volcano off season. That was a blow to many of our Marines that had that on their "things to do while I'm in the Corps" list, but many of them will get the chance again later in their careers.

We have only two more months left in our deployment. I plan to use that time to satisfy as many annual training requirements as we can so we can all better prepare for whatever mission comes next. Additionally, we're currently planning several battery activities that will take advantage of our current environment and strengthen our morale and bonds of brotherhood. Some of our Marines will be preparing to return early with the Advanced Party to ensure the battery's smooth transition back to Camp Lejeune and 2/10. Either way, the day is fast approaching when all our Marines will be returning home.

I am also happy to announce the following Marines have been promoted in the month of October: Cpl Berghammer, LCpl Deweerd, LCpl Guzman, LCpl Lauer, LCpl Ledesma, LCpl Valenzuela, and PFC Morris. Special congratulations go out to Lance Corporal Herbert Nicolas of our Communications section for his selection as the 3/12 and 12th Marines "Marine of the Quarter". We wish him luck on the selection board for the 3rd Marine Division's title.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,
Capt Colon

Mailing Address:
(Rank and Full Name)
Btry F, 2d Battalion, 10th Marines
Unit 73355
FPO AE 09502-3355



Births

A 6 ¾ lbs baby girl was born on 27
Sept at 7:20 am to LCpl and Mrs.
Jasper

CONGRATULATIONS!

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Marines on their recent awards:

Cpl Judge, Impact Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Battery Family Readiness Officer
1stLt King

Btry F, 2/10 Website

<http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/2dmardiv/210/findex.html>



GOLF BATTERY



Friends and families,

During the past 2 months, the Marines and sailors of Golf Battery have been training extremely hard in preparation for the upcoming deployment to Iraq. The average week consists of more field time than time in garrison and some very long days. Some of the highlights of that training include the Enhanced Marksmanship Program (EMP) ranges, throwing hand-grenades, a machine-gun range, convoy training, and classroom instruction on Iraqi cultural awareness. The training pace will not be slowing anytime soon, but I know that the Marines of Golf Battery are welcoming the challenge and are ready to aggressively attack any task assigned. I am very proud of their performance to date, as should all of you be.

Looking out at the next few months, the Battery will be deploying to Ft. Polk, Louisiana in January for several weeks for the final phase of training, and then will ultimately attach to 1/12 out of Hawaii as part of Task Force MP for the deployment to Iraq. As always, if you have any questions or comments for the unit, feel free to contact me or the Executive Officer/Family Readiness Officer, 1stLt Rob Wargo.

Semper Fi,
Capt Kelley



LCpl Edwards getting promoted in the field.



Cpl Garcia issues an order to his squad.



Marines stacking a door to enter a building during training on urban operations.



Marines shooting on the EMP range.

Congratulations to these recently promoted Marines:

September 1

Cpl Cave
LCpl Edwards
LCpl Harris
LCpl McMillen
PFC Johnson

October 1

Cpl Couture
Cpl Francis
Cpl Ochoa
Cpl Trim
LCpl Browne
LCpl Stephens
LCpl Taghon

Battery Family Readiness Officer

1stLt Wargo

(910) 450-8114

Btry G, 2/10 Website

<http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/2dmardiv/210/gindex.html>



LIMA BATTERY



Dear Families,

Hello to the Families and friends of Battery L, 2nd Battalion 10th Marines. Battery L recently joined the Battalion in preparation for its upcoming deployment to Iraq in 2007. The battery has begun the transition from an artillery unit to a provisional security company in anticipation of our new mission with 2nd Battalion. Thus we have said goodbye to a number of Lima

Marines who will not make the deployment due to end of service or change of station cutoff time. We wish those Marines fair winds and following seas. We have also received a number of new Marines to our ranks who have joined the unit to go on deployment. We welcome them to the team. In the coming weeks we will focus on mastery of our basic Marine skills.

Some of our upcoming events are:

- 22-26 Oct Field Operation
- 9-14 Nov Veterans Day 96
- 13 Nov 3/10 Marine Corps Ball
- 15-17 Nov Field Operation
- 22-27 Nov Thanksgiving 96

Our battery key volunteers are: Mrs. O'Gorman, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Riffin, and Mrs. Woodall. In addition, questions or concerns may also be addressed to myself or my First Sergeant, 1stSgt Gilliam; our battery office number is 910 450-8323.

In closing, I thank you for your continuing support of your Marine and this battery. I ask you to keep all of our deployed Marines and Sailors in your thoughts and prayers. Take care.

Semper Fidelis,

Capt O'Gorman and 1stSgt Gilliam



Births

Congratulations newest proud parents:

Sgt and Mrs. Barron

Sgt and Mrs. Salter

We are very happy for them and their new children!

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Marines on their recent awards:
LCpl Parker won the Marine Of the Quarter board for 3rd Qtr

PROMOTIONS

Cpl Williams, Lamarche, Barron and Wilson were promoted to Sergeant
LCpl Leos, Santos, Woodall, Brown III, and Roye were promoted to Corporal

PFC Norton and Olsen were promoted to Lance Corporal

Pvt Conrad was promoted to Private First Class

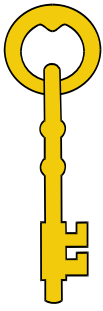
Battery Family Readiness Officer

2ndLt Rauhala

(910) 450-8321

Btry L, 2/10 Website

<http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/2dmardiv/210/gindex.html>



KEY VOLUNTEERS



October KV Meeting



One of our Fox KV's with Col Hodges,
CO MCB Camp Lejeune at the LINKS Fair
held at Midway Park

Links

<http://www.mccslejeune.com/KeyVolunteer.html>

<http://www.mccslejeune.com/MCFTBMain.html>



Maj Tate with goodies for everyone!

Hello to all,

As we begin this addition of our newsletter, we would like to welcome Lima Battery and their families. We look forward to meeting all of you. We have met some of the ladies who have become a part of our Key Volunteer Network and you should all be hearing from your Key Volunteer soon. If for some reason you are not contacted by a KV in the next few weeks, please call 450-6466 and make sure we have accurate information. Also, if you would like to become part of our KV network, let us know. We are always looking for more help!

As we work our way towards the Holiday Season, keep your ears open for upcoming 2/10 event information. The Marine Corps Ball, St. Barbara's Day Ball, and our Holiday Party are just a few to look forward to. We welcome all of you and look forward to meeting you at the Holiday Party. Please bring the whole family for some fun, games, and crafts. Even "Santa" will make his appearance. This will take place on December 15th, at Marston Pavilion, with more details to follow. In closing, we would like to wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving and a great holiday season.

**Thank you and God Bless,
Your 2/10 Key Volunteer Network**